

NEWS

BORNTON.

Near the City of

CANTERBURY

KENT.



Of a Sad and Dreadful Account of a Barbarous and Bloody Murther, Committed by one John Jones of Monmouth-shire, upon the Person of a Jew (after many pretences of Friendship) with his own Knife in a most inhumane Manner; on the 2^d of July, 1686. with all the Material Circumstances that attended the Wicked Act, and Manner of seizing the Murtherer with many other Matters relating to his own Confession before Justice, and of some Papers that were found about the Murthered Party: Attested by Persons of Worth and Known Integrity, as it appeared upon Examination.

Amongst the many Murthers Committed by Wicked and Bloody minded Persons, none have of late been known more Barbarous, nor proceeded from a higher degree of Ingratitude, than what I shall impartially Relate, (as it is attested by Persons of Worth and known Integrity) which take as followeth.

About the Latter End of June last, as appears by a Passport; since found, one John Jones, a Native of Monmouth-shire; took Shipping at Newport with a Jew and came for England, where Arriving the first Instant; they Landed at Dover: But it not appearing that Jones had any Money to defray his Charges, the Jew who had (as is conjectured) proved kind to him, desired him now to be his Conductor and Interpreter, as being in all likelihood unacquainted with the Country, who readily accepting the offer, they came in the Evening to Canterbury, and took up their Lodging for that Night, at the sign of the *Three Mariners* in St. Dunstons Parish, near the said City, and departed early the next Morning for London, insomuch, that about Eight of the Clock they reached Borton, where at the House of one Mr. Hume, being the sign of the *Anchor*, they Break-fasted on a Dish of Steak, and there the Jew bore Jones Charges, by defraying the Reckoning, &c. and so departed in order to prosecute their Journey: But so it unfortunately happened, that the Jew having left his Knife behind him, desired Jones to bring it after him, which he accordingly did, securing it for him, as he farther required, &c. it being one of those desperate ones, the Dutchmen commonly call *Snickersnee*, &c.

With the Knife mentioned, as they were passing along the Road, Jones came on the Right-side of the Jew, who was then walking towards the

ability, ignorant of what was intended) and without any Provocation, suddenly struck him under the Pap, upon which, the Jew finding himself assaulted and his Life in Danger, struggled with him to wrest the Knife from him, so that he fastened one Hand upon it, and the other in his Hair; but Jones having the advantage, drew the Knife through his Hand so violently that it cut him to the Bone, and with a Reverse Struck him on the Left side, and then perceiving him Faint and stagger he pressed upon him, and over-powering him by main strength Cut his Throat, and cast the Bloody Knife with which he had committed the Fact into an adjacent Field, after which, he fell to Riffing the Dead Body; but observing a Coach coming at a distance, he brushed with what Pillage he had gotten through the next Hedge into a Field, and passed on about two Fields distance from the Road, where opening the Jew's Bundle under a Hedge, he found in it a clean Shirt, which he put on, and with his own foul one, wiped the Blood from his Cloaths, &c. and there continued about the space of two Hours a drying it, and then made off the next way in order to escape; but coming to a certain House, and seeing a Man at Work there, either Thatching or Tying, he was surprized and betook himself to another way, following a small Path, which lead him to a place called *Stone Stairs* near *Fewersham*, where he was met by two Gentlemen, who hearing of the Murder so newly Committed, were in search of the Murderer, and looking upon this Jones as a suspicious person, demanded from whence he came, who answered from *Canterbury*; then they told him he was out of his Road, and farther said, that they finding a man Murdered did suspect him to be the Murderer &c. and so seizing on him, they brought him back to *Canterbury*, where he was Examined before Capt. *Joseph Roberts*, one of His Majesties Justices of the Peace, &c. before whom he would not Confess the matter of Fact, but alledged that he saw the person murder himself, and so he took that by way for fear he should be suspected; but that being altogether improbable in relation to the manner of the Wounds given, and other Suspensions rendering his Guilt more apparent; he was at that time Committed to the Common Goal where the next Day he Confessed the Fact much in the manner as has been related to Dr. *De Prez*, and Dr. *Key*, worthy Divines living in *Canterbury*, who signed this Relation, &c. and farther, Jones said that the Devil put it into his mind to do the Murder not above an Hour before he Committed it; and so leave him to receive the Reward of his Crime, by the Just Punishment of the Law.

As for the Party Murdered, there were found about him Papers in *Hebrew*, which being Translated at the Request of some Gentlemen, by a Reverend Doctor of Divinity; they appeared to be Scripture Texts, taken out of *Exodus* and *Deuteronomy*: One containing the 13 Chap. of *Exodus* to the 16 Verse, another the 6 Chap. of *Deuteronomy*, from Verse 4, to Verse 10. and a third the 11 Chap. of *Deut.* from Verse 13 to Verse 22, and some other Papers that were likewise Translated by the same Hand. As for the Name of the Jew it is not as yet known, he being a Stranger.